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United for Quality Care

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Before the Finance Committee

**In Support of HB 5673 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REFORMATION
OF CERTAIN TAXES AND TAX EQUITY**

Good Afternoon Senator Fonfara, Representative Horn and members of the Housing Committee, my name is Jennifer Brown. I am a resident of Manchester and a member of SEIU 1199. I am testifying in support of House Bill 5673.

I am a direct service worker in multiple groups homes. In order to be able to afford where I live and keep a roof over the heads of myself and my family, I have to work 3 full time jobs and 1 part time job just to stay afloat. Despite this, I still live paycheck to paycheck because of the growing burden of inflation and its effect on every aspect of my life. I only make \$17.25 an hour, which means working one job and being able to afford the necessities for myself and my family is a luxury that is unfortunately out of reach.

Connecticut's extreme inequality is a major obstacle to sustainable, inclusive economic growth. House Bill 5673 sees the severe racial inequality in income, wealth, housing, education, health care, health outcomes, and access to public services and looks to help level the playing field by making the bold investments we need in essential public services, education, health care, housing, and municipal aid. If you pass our Equity Agenda - House Bill 5673 - we can build a future where all residents have the resources they need to survive and thrive.

Thank you for your time.